

	in.	lin.
Length of the ears.....	0	3
—— of the tragus.....	0	2
—— of the fore-arm.....	1	6
—— of the longest finger.....	2	4
—— of the fourth finger.....	1	11, nearly.
—— of the thumb.....	0	3 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>
—— of the tibia.....	0	8 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>
—— of the foot and claws.....	0	5 <sup>2</sup> <sub>2</sub>
Expanse of wings, about.....	12	6

The plate which accompanies the present memoir illustrates some of the peculiarities of the genus of which I have given a description.

2. ON SOME NEW OR LITTLE-KNOWN SPECIES OF ACCIPITRES,  
IN THE COLLECTION OF THE NORWICH MUSEUM. BY  
PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A.

At the request of Mr. J. H. Gurney, I exhibit to the meeting some interesting birds belonging to the fine series of specimens of the order Accipitres, which that gentleman has collected for the Norwich Museum. Among them appear to be several new or little-known species, concerning which I beg to offer the following remarks:—

1. URUBITINGA SCHISTACEA.

*Asturina schistacea*, Sund. Ofv. Af. K. Vet. Ak. Förh. 1849, p. 132.

*Falco ardesiacus*, Licht. in Mus. Berol.

*Morphnus schistaceus*, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1857, p. 261.

♂ *adultus*. *Totus nigro-cinerascens, cauda nigra, fascia media angusta margineque apicali albis: orbitis subnudis: rostri apice nigra, hujus basi cum pedibus flavis.*

Long. tota 16·0, alæ 11·0, caudæ 7·0, rostri a rictu 1·4, tarsi 3·3.

Sundeval has given an excellent description of this bird, which does not appear to have been recognized by any other writers except Prince Bonaparte. By this author it is alluded to in an article entitled "Revue générale de la classe des Oiseaux," in the 'Revue et Mag. de Zool.' for 1850, p. 474, and again in the 'Comptes Rendus' for 1855, under the specific name *ardesiacus*, the synonym "*Falco ardesiacus*, Licht. in Mus. Berol." being said to refer to it.

Of the two examples of this species belonging to the Norwich Museum, one was procured by Mr. H. W. Bates\* on the Rio Jarvari—a branch of the Upper Amazon; and the other, I have no doubt, from the ticket with which it is labelled, is from the interior of Bolivia. So we may conclude that the interior wood-region of Peru and Bolivia is the natural *habitat* of this species.

\* See P. Z. S. 1857, p. 261.

There are at least three birds of this group which are in their adult plumage slaty-black or blackish, with a white bar across the tail. The first of these and largest in size is the *Falco urubitinga* of the older authors. Lesson in 1839 proposed to convert the term *Urubitinga* into a generic name, and it was so adopted by Lafresnaye in 1842, before the creation of Cabanis's genus *Hypomorphnus* for the same type. See M. de Lafresnaye's remarks on this subject in the 'Revue Zoologique' for 1848, p. 240. With regard to the specific name to be employed for this bird we cannot use Brisson's "*brasiliensis*," as is done in Strickland's 'Ornithological Synonyms,' because Brisson's\* names are not to be employed in a binominal system of nomenclature. Nor is it proper to adopt Illiger's MS. term "*longipes*," as proposed in Prince Bonaparte's 'Conspectus,' while there are many other names for this bird already published. So the earliest specific name available seems to be Shaw's *zonurus* (*Falco zonurus*, Shaw's Zool. vii. p. 62), and this species should stand as *Urubitinga zonura*. It appears to have an extensive range, extending from Paraguay, all over Bolivia, Peru, Brazil, Guiana and New Granada into Southern Mexico, where specimens were obtained by M. Sallé (see P. Z. S. 1857, p. 227).

The second allied species of *Urubitinga* is the "*Falco anthracinus*, Licht. in Mus. Berol.," under which name it is described by Nitzsch in a note to his 'Pterylographic' (p. 83). This is the same as Du Bus's *Morphnus mexicanus* (Bull. Ac. Brux. 1847). See M. de Lafresnaye's observations in the 'Revue Zoologique' for 1848 (p. 240), where he clearly points out the differences between this bird and the *Urubitinga zonura*. The *Urubitinga anthracina* inhabits the northern portion of South America, Guiana† and New Granada‡, Guatemala and Southern Mexico§, where MM. Botteri and Sallé both procured it, and M. Du Bus's types were collected. The third species is *Urubitinga schistacea* as characterized above, which is distinguishable at once from the preceding by its inferior size and narrower tail-band. The following diagnoses are sufficient to point out the differences between these three species || :—

1. *U. zonura*. *Major, caudæ dimidia basali et margine apicali albis.*

2. *U. anthracina*. *Media, caudæ fascia lata et margine apicali albis.*

3. *U. schistacea*. *Minor, caudæ fascia angusta et margine apicali albis.*

Such are these birds in their adult plumage : in their immaturity they are quite different. I have not yet seen the young of *U. schi-*

\* See British Association's Report on Zoological Nomenclature, rule 2, p. 5.

† Schomburgk, Reisen in Britisch Guiana, iii. p. 740.

‡ MM. Verreaux have received examples from Santa Martha.

§ See P. Z. S. 1857, pp. 211 & 227.

|| A fourth black *Urubitinga*, allied to *U. anthracina*, has lately been described by Cabanis from Cuba under the name *Hypomorphnus Gundlachii*. See Cab. Journ. f. Orn. 1854, Erinnerungs-heft, p. lxxx.

*stacea*, as I now think the specimen in one of Sallé's Mexican collections called *Morphnus schistaceus*, juv. (P. Z. S. 1857, p. 227) does not really belong here; but the other two species in their immature state are both irregularly flammulated on the lower surface and back, and have numerous buffy-white cross-bars on the tail and under tail-coverts. Specimens of *U. zonura* in this state are in the British Museum, and we have a fine example of a similar bird now alive in our Gardens.

I have hitherto used for these birds the generic term *Morphnus*, following Mr. Gray and other writers; but on considering that the true type of *Morphnus* is the *Falco guianensis* of Daudin—a bird of different structure and more nearly allied to *Thrasaëtus*—I think they stand better disconnected. But the *Falco unicinctus* of Temminck and *Falco meridionalis* of Latham—two allied species—for which Kaup's term *Spizigeranus* may be employed subgenerically—ought, as M. de Lafresnaye\* has observed, to come close to the true *Urubitingæ*; and *Buteogallus* with its two species (*æquinoctialis* and *nigricollis*) follows next. A bird more closely corresponding to the *Urubitingæ* in its changes of colouring is *Urubitornis solitaria*, of which M. Jules Verreaux has described the several stages of plumage in these 'Proceedings†,' but it is distinguishable by its shorter and much more robust tarsi.

## 2. *BUTEO ZONOCERCUS*, sp. nov.

*Schistacescenti-niger unicolor, alis extus brunnescente tinctis: remigum pogoniis interioribus albo obsolete transfasciatis: cauda nigra; vitta inferiore lata, et alteris duabus superioribus angustioribus et imperfectis cum margine apicali albis: rostro nigro, cera aurantia, pedibus flavis.*

Long. tota 17·0, alæ 14·7, caudæ 7·5, rostri a rictu 1·3, tarsi 2·9.

*Hab.* Guatemala.

In plumage this bird is very much like the typical *Urubitingæ*, being of a nearly uniform ashy-black, tinged with brown on the scapularies and secondaries, and with a broad white band across the tail. Above this are two other bands, much narrower and not quite complete, and the tail is likewise tipped with white. The colour of these bands is pure white on the under surface; on the upper surface it is cinereous on the outer webs of the lateral rectrices, and on both webs of the medial pair, but pure white on the inner webs of the lateral tail-feathers. The lowest band is about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch in breadth, the second not half an inch, and the highest is quite narrow. There are distinct traces of white cross-bands on the inner webs of the wing-feathers. The wings are, however, much more elongated than in the *Urubitingæ*, the third primary (which is longest) extending 4 inches beyond the secondaries. The fourth and fifth primaries are only slightly shorter than the third, the first being nearly of the same length as the longest secondary. The general form seems to be that of the *Buteones* appertaining to the

\* Rev. Zool. 1848, p. 240.

† See P. Z. S. 1856, p. 145.

subgenus called *Tachytriorehis*, and the nearest ally of the present species among the specimens of the British Museum appears, as has been pointed out to me by Mr. G. R. Gray, to be his *Buteo albonotatus* (Cat. Accipitres [1818], p. 36). This latter bird does not appear to me to differ from Cabanis's *Buteo abbreviatus*, described in Schomburgk's 'Reisen in Britisch Guiana,' vol. iii. p. 739, and I should be inclined to consider the two names as synonymous.

3. *SYRNIUM ALBOTARSE*, sp. nov.

*Syrnium albotarse*, G. R. Gray in Mus. Brit.

*Supra brunescenti-nigrum, plumis omnibus pallido rufo semel aut pluries late transfusciatis; pileo unicolore nigricante, plumis subtus pallide rufis: alis caudaque nigricantibus; remigum pogoniis exterioribus quinque sive sex maculis quadratis pallide rufis marginatis; rectricibus vittis quinque et altera terminali latiore supra pallide rufis, subtus magis albidis apparentibus transfusciatis: facie, loris, mento et plumis supra-ocularibus albis: subtus pure album, rufescente mixtum, plumarum terminationibus latis interdum etiam scapis saturate brunneis; tibiis et tarsorum parte superiore rufis, horum parte inferiore albis: rostri plumbei apice flava, pedibus fuscis.*

Long. tota 15·0, alæ 11·0, caudæ 6·5, tarsi 1·9.

The name of this Owl was inserted in the list of specimens of Accipitres in the collection of the British Museum published in 1848; but no description of it has yet appeared. The type in the British Museum is immature, and nearly agrees with one in my own collection. Mr. Gurney's specimen, from which my description is taken, appears to be nearly adult. All these three examples were received in collections from Bogota, and they are the only individuals of this species that I have yet met with. The face of this bird is white; the head above brownish-black outside, with the bases of the feathers bright rufous. The whole upper surface is brownish-black varied with this rufous colouring, every feather being crossed with a broad subterminal band of rufous, sometimes with a second, and these bands being occasionally incomplete in the middle across the shaft. The primaries and secondaries are marked externally with rather square-shaped rufous spots, four or five in number. The tail has five cross-bands besides the terminal one formed in the same way, which bands appear whitish on the lower surface. Below, the colouring is creamy-white tinged with pale rufous, the breast-feathers, particularly on the sides, having broad terminations of black-brown, the belly-feathers narrower terminations and also lateral margins of the same colour. The tarsi are creamy-white with a yellowish tinge in both my specimens, more nearly pure white in that in the British Museum. They are thickly feathered down to the fissure of the toes. The form is that of other South American *Syrnia*, the fourth and fifth wing-feathers being equal and longest, only slightly exceeding the third. The specimen which I take for

the younger bird only differs in having the head varied like the back, and being generally more rufous.

The other American species of this genus of which I have seen specimens are :—

1. *Syrnium hylophilum* (Temm. Pl. Col. 373), from Brazil. Mus. Brit. et Acad. Philadelph.

2. *Syrnium rufipes* (King, Zool. Journ. iii. 426), from Tierra del Fuego. Mus. Brit. Perhaps the same as the Chilian species figured by Des Murs as *Ulula fasciata*, Icon. Orn. pl. 37.

3. *Syrnium virgatum*, Cass. (Journ. Ac. Phil. vol. ii.) (*S. squamulatum*, Bp.—*S. zonocercum*, G. R. Gray), from S. Mexico and Central America.

4. *Syrnium polygrammicum*, G. R. Gray in Mus. Brit. ex Brasil. An undescribed species very nearly allied to the last.

5. *Syrnium albigulare*, Cass. (Journ. Ac. Phil. vol. ii. pl. 4. p. 52).—*S. macabrum*, Bp.—*S. albipunctatum*, G. R. Gray in Mus. Brit. From Bogota.

#### 4. *SCOPS USTA*, sp. nov.

*Supra saturate castaneo-brunnea, plumis omnibus nigro subtilissime vermiculatis: facie et gula pure castaneo-brunneis, hac pallidiore: linea post regionem auricularem, cornuum capitis extantium marginibus latis et pileo supero nigris: alarum pennis pallide castaneo-brunneis nigro punctulatis, intus autem ochraceiscenti-albidis, quinque aut sex fasciis latis in pogonio externo, maculas quadratas efficientibus, nigris transvittatis; cauda ex eodem colore sed fasciis nigris pæne obsoletis: subtus clarius brunnea, lineis angustis longitudinalibus, scapas plumarum occupantibus, nigris parce notata: tectricibus alarum inferioribus sordide albis: tarsis pallide fulvis: rostro et pedibus flavis.*

Long. tota 8·5, alæ 7·0, caudæ 4·0, tarsi 1·2.

*Hab.* Ega on the Upper Amazon (H. W. Bates).

This species is founded on the *Scops* which I mentioned as occurring in Mr. Bates's collection from the Upper Amazon in these 'Proceedings' for last year (p. 261). It is distinguishable from every other South American member of the genus, as far as I am acquainted with them, by its rich brown colouring above and below, and by the longitudinal lines below not being crossed as in *Scops choliba* and *S. atricapilla*. I am inclined to refer the *Scops* which was contained in M. Verreaux's collection from the Rio Napo to this same species. It presents nearly the same appearance on its lower surface, but the colouring above is more like that of *Scops choliba*, and I think it is probably a young bird. The birds of this genus are difficult to distinguish, and I have been unable to identify the present examples with any of ten species which have been already described as inhabiting different parts of America, as follows :—

1. *Scops asio* (Linn.), Cassin, Birds of Californ. p. 179.  
*Hab.* Whole of N. America, chiefly Atlantic States. Mus. Brit.
2. *Scops Maccalli*, Cassin, Birds of Californ. p. 180.  
*Hab.* Texas and N. Mexico.
3. *Scops flammeola*, Kp.—*Strix flammeola*, Licht. in Mus. Berol.  
*Hab.* Southern Mexico.
4. *Scops choliba*, Vieill.—*Strix crucigera* et *undulata*, Spix.  
*Hab.* Cayenne, Brit. Guiana, Brazil, Eastern Peru, Bolivia and New Granada. Mus. Brit.
5. *Scops portoricensis*, Less. : Des Murs, Icon. Orn. pl. 26.  
*Hab.* Puerto Rico and New Granada. Mus. Paris.
6. *Scops Watsoni*, Cassin, Pr. Ac. Sc. Phil. iv. p. 123, et Journ. Ac. Phil. ii. pl. 12. fig. 1. p. 95.  
*Hab.* Venezuela and Surinam.
7. *Scops atricapilla* (Temm.), Pl. Col. 145.  
*Hab.* Brazil. Mus. Brit.
8. *Scops lophotes*, Less. Tr. d'Orn. i. p. 107; Puch. Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1849, p. 22.  
*Hab.* Cayenne.
9. *Scops grammicus*, Gosse, B. Jam. p. 19, Illustr. pl. 4.  
*Hab.* Jamaica. The type of Kaup's proposed genus *Pseudoscops* : see Bp. in Compt. Rend. Oct. 22, 1855. Mus. Brit.
10. *Scops nudipes*.—*Ephialtes nudipes*, Cassin, List of Strigidæ, sp. 13.—*Bubo nudipes*, Vieill. Ois. de l'Am. Sept. pl. 22.

This paper will be published in the 'Transactions' of the Society, and illustrated with plates.

### 3. DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES OF LAND AND FRESHWATER SHELLS COLLECTED IN CEYLON, FROM THE COLLECTION OF H. CUMING, ESQ. BY H. DOHRN.

1. *HELIX ALBIZONATA*. *Testa subperforata, turbinato-depressa, solida, striis longitudinalibus et spiralibus distantioribus decussata, castanea; sutura alba; anfr. 6 vix convexi, lente accrescentes; ultimus carinatus, carina albizonata; sub-tus convexiusculus, longitudinaliter striatus, nitidus; apertura oblique lunaris, intus curulescens; peristomium rectum, intus incrassatum, margine columellari superne dilatato, perforationem fere tegente.*

Diam. maj. 25, min. 22½, alt. 15½ mill.

Allied to *H. Gordenieri*, Pfr.